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II. REMARKS

A. STATUS SUMMARY

Claims 3, 5-7, 9-14, 17-19, 21-23, 25-34, 36-38 and 41-46 are pending in the present application. Claims 27-33 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 3, 5-7, 9-14, 17-19, 21-34, 25, 26, 34, 36-38 and 41-46 are rejected. In this paper, Applicant has amended claims 3, 23, and 24 and canceled claims 9, 10, 13, 14, 21, 22 and 41 without prejudice.

Applicant has considered the above-identified Office Action, and replies as set forth below.

B. CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3, 5-7, 9-14, 17-19, 21-34, 25, 26, 34, 36-38 and 41-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable (i) over Sato et al (US 6,132,069) in view of Tchilinguirian (US 6,588,543) and further in view of Lin (US Patent No. 6,007,028) and (ii) over Tchilinguirian (US 6,588,543) in view of Sato et al (US 6,132,069) and further in view of Lin (US Patent No. 6,007,028).

With particular regard to independent claim 3, none of the prior art references alone, or in combination, teach an arm member having a base section that includes a interface section substantially located in a region of the base section and that further includes a post extending through the base section and the interface section along an axis generally orthogonal to a mounting direction that has a spring mechanism mounted to the post and contacting the arm member. While the Examiner argues that Lin teaches a housing having an arm member pivotally coupled to an interface section via a horizontal post and spring mechanism in contact with the arm, the structure of the locking mechanism and components taught in Sato are so distinct in

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design and interface with one another in a totally different manner than the mounting mechanism in Lin that there is no motivation to combine the references. In particular, nothing in any of the cited prior art references suggest using a spring biased post running through the base section of the arm having an interface section that is substantially located in a region of the base section of the arm, and where the arm member rotates about the post relative to the interface section.

For the same reasons as set forth above with respect to claim 1, independent claim 23 is also patentable over the cited prior art.

With respect to independent claim 34, none of the prior art references alone, or in combination, teach an mounting mechanism having an arm member and a interface section that includes a post extending through the base section and the interface section along an axis generally orthogonal to a mounting direction and that further includes a spring mechanism mounted to the post and contacting the arm member where the interface section and the arm member via the interface section are movably coupled to the shaft and adjustable generally along the mounting direction. Again, while the Examiner argues that Lin teaches a housing having an arm member pivotally coupled to an interface section via a horizontal post and spring mechanism in contact with the arm, the structure of the locking mechanism and components taught in Sato are so distinct in design and interface with one another in a totally different manner than the mounting mechanism in Lin that there is no motivation to combine the references. In particular, nothing in any of the cited prior art references teaches or suggests, alone or in combination, using a spring biased post running through the arm and interface section to movably couple the arm to the shaft via the interface section. The mounting structure in Lin does not couple the arm with the interface section such that the arm is movably coupled to the shaft. Thus, there is no motivation in Lin or Sato to combine the spring loaded post structure in Lin with the arm and PATENT
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interface structure in Sato, as the arm and interface structures in Sato and Lin do not interface with each other in the same manner as necessary to provide the obvious motivation to combine.

For the above note reasons, claims 3, 23 and 34 and all claims depending therefrom are all patentable over the cited prior art references.

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III. CONCLUSION

In light of the above Amendments and Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance, and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Office Action.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-2542. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/26/09

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